

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
Load Curtailment Systems
Apogee Interactive, Inc. Project Summary

Project Description:

Apogee Interactive Inc. recruited six customers in the San Diego Gas & Electric service territory. These customers represent a peak load of 15 megawatts with a curtailment capability of approximately 5 megawatts. The contractor installed, tested, and operated a system of voluntary reduction. When demand was too high, electricity customers were given the option to reduce in their electricity usage at specific times and in specific quantities for a specific price. The cost to build this system capability to deliver load reductions was approximately \$85 per kilowatt.

Funding Summary:

The overall project cost was \$340,000. Approximately 60% of the funding was used for installation of software and operation of the notification system, 20% for installation of hardware, and 20% for administration costs, including pilot test and final report.

Project Results:

A pilot test held on July 10, 2001 from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. sent a signal to request load reductions from all participating customers, and resulted in electric load curtailment of approximately 3000 kilowatts. Pilot test results were confirmed by Nexant Inc, a third party engineering consultant.

Lessons Learned:

Providing a stable market for demand reductions with predictable and simple rules is an important predictor of customer participation and performance. Customers in this program expressed a desire for uniform rules and platforms between all utilities willing to promote emergency load curtailments. This uniformity would eliminate confusion created by many different requirements from different utilities. It is much easier for a corporation with multiple sites in different electric service territories to deal with just one set of rules and one point of contact at the state level.

Contact Information:

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